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I.—*List of the Birds hitherto observed in Greenland.* By
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THE following list proves of itself how much our knowledge of the Avifauna of Greenland has advanced during the last thirty years; but I may be permitted to prefix a few remarks on the subject. In his celebrated ‘Fauna Grœnlandica,’ Fabricius enumerates fifty-four birds; two of them, however, are only the young ones of other species*; and four (which he inserted without having seen them, imagining that he recognized them in the narratives of the Eskimaux) are never met with in that country†. They had better, therefore, be erased from the list. Thus the actual number of Greenland birds with which ornithologists are acquainted through the labours of Fabricius amounts only to forty-eight. After the publication of the work of this most excellent observer, the Avifauna of Greenland received no material increase until 1818, when Captain (now General) Edward Sabine added three species to it, in his well-known “Memoir on the Birds of Greenland”‡. About the same time my late

* *Falco fuscus* and *Anas glaucion*.

† *Parus bicolor*, *Mergus merganser*, *Larus cinerarius* (*ridibundus*), and *Pelecanus cristatus*.

‡ In the ‘Transactions of the Linnean Society,’ vol. xii. p. 527. The species added by him are, *Tringa canutus*, *Larus leucopterus* (enumerated as *L. argentatus*, var.), and *Xema sabini*. *Uria bruennichii*, described by him as a new species, was already, as shown by Faber (Prodr. der Isländ.

father began to have birds collected in Greenland on a larger scale for the Royal Museum of Copenhagen, which was then under his care, and from this moment dates the great increase in our knowledge of the Avifauna of that country. In 1824 he published a short paper—"Grönlands Fugle efter de nyeste Erfaringer"*—in which four species were added; and fourteen years later, in the Introduction to his 'Ichthyologiske Bidrag til den Grönlandske Fauna'†, he added not less than twenty-one, discovered in the meantime by the various collectors employed by the Royal Museum, and chiefly by Captain Holböll and Dr. Vahl. In the following two or three years some more were received, and thus, in 1842, Holböll was enabled to enumerate, in his 'Ornithologiske Bidrag'‡, eighty-eight species then observed in Greenland,—or rather eighty-six, as two of the birds included by him, *Aquila ossifraga* and *Uria ringvia*, have scarcely any claim to be accounted distinct species. Since Holböll's memoir was written, even this considerable number has increased very much, about thirty species more having been added. For these additions science is indebted to various ornithologists, all duly mentioned in my list; but by far the greater number is owing to the exertions of the late Carl Holböll and others of the indefatigable collectors of the Royal Museum§.

In Dr. Walker's paper on the "Ornithology of the Voyage of the 'Fox,'" which lately appeared in this Magazine ('Ibis,' Ornith. p. 42) and my father, mentioned in the 'Fauna Groenlandica' under the name of *Alca pica*, and accordingly cannot be considered a real addition to the list; and in the same way, *Falco peregrinus*, also added by Sabine, seems to have been enumerated by Fabricius as *F. rusticolus*.

* In the 'Tidskrift for Naturvidenskaberne,' Kjöbenhavn, 1824, vol. iii. pp. 52-80.

† In the 'Vid. Sel. naturvid. og mathem. Afh.' vii. pp. 85-228.

‡ In Kröyer's 'Naturhistoriske Tidskrift,' 1843, vol. iv. pp. 361-457. A German translation of this paper has been published: "Ornithologischer Beitrag zur Fauna Grönlands von Carl Holböll. Uebersetzt und mit einem Anhang versehen von J. H. Paulsen." Leipzig, 1846.

§ Many of these additions were recorded in the author's "Notitser til Grönlands Ornithologie," published in the 'Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjöbenhavn f. A. 1853,' p. 69, of which paper, a translation, by Dr. Gloger, appeared in Cabanis' 'Journal für Ornithologie,' 1854, p. 423.—ED.

1860, pp. 165–168), two more species are mentioned, not hitherto recorded as being met with in Greenland. One of them, *Tringa minuta*, I have not included in the following list, as I learn from a private source that the specific name was substituted in error for that of *T. maritima*. The other, *Fuligula cristata*, I have admitted, though with much doubt, for the reason I have hereafter stated. I am also disposed to question the learned Doctor's assertion that *Motacilla alba* breeds in Greenland, suggesting that the eggs of *Saxicola œnanthe* were mistaken by him for those of the former bird, since I am informed that the specimens brought home by him exactly resemble those of the latter species. ✓ 198

A stricter examination of the great number of birds discovered in Greenland after the time of Fabricius will, however, show how highly creditable was the manner in which he investigated its Avifauna; for though the whole number of species has been more than doubled, by far the larger part of the additions is made up of birds which can only be considered as *more or less accidental visitors* to Greenland. The number of birds known to breed in the country is, since Fabricius, only augmented by eleven*; and though probably some six or seven more may in future be found to breed there†, even then the whole number will not amount to more than half of all the species observed.

As might be expected from its geographical position, the North-American character preponderates in the Avifauna of Greenland. When from the 118 species hitherto observed there, we deduct sixty-three which occur throughout the whole polar zone, and accordingly must be considered not to bear on this question (at least as far as they are constantly resident in Greenland),—of the remaining fifty-five there are thirty-five North-American species, nineteen European, and a single one (the Ptarmigan) possibly peculiar to Greenland. A still more marked North-American feature of the fauna results from an observation of Holböll's, that Greenland receives only four of its regular birds

* *Anthus ludovicianus*, *Fringilla canescens*, *Zonotrichia leucophrys*, *Tringa canutus*, *T. schinzii* (Bp.), *Calidris arenaria*, *Thalassidroma leachii*, *Stercorarius pomarinus*, *S. buffoni*, *Larus leucopterus*, and *Xema sabini*.

* *Gallinago media*, *Tringa cinclus*, *Numenius phæopus*, *Podiceps cornutus*, *Cygnus musicus*, *Bernicla leucopsis*, and *Anas acuta*.

of passage from Europe*; and should even this number prove to be too small, and some others (for instance, *Gallinago media* and *Anser albifrons*) be added, there will still be a great preponderance of such birds migrating to Greenland from North America. But, on the other hand, Greenland is marked as being the most westerly, though regular, boundary of some strictly European species,—not only the birds of passage already mentioned, but also others, such as *Aquila albicilla*.

Greenland is divided into two “Inspektorater”: the southern (South Greenland) includes the settlements (“Kolonier”) of Julianehaab, Frederikshaab, Fiskerøset, Godthaab, Sukkertoppen, and Holstenborg; in the northern (North Greenland) are the settlements Godhavn, Egedesminde, Christianshaab, Jacobshavn, Ritenbenk, Omenak, and Upernivik.

The names of the species which breed in Greenland are printed in small capitals; those observed as yet in very few instances only, and the accidental stragglers, are marked with an asterisk; the domestic birds are not numbered, but distinguished by a dagger.

1. HALIAËTUS ALBICILLA (Linn.).

Very common: occurs in South Greenland all the year round; in North Greenland only in summer. Besides this, the late Captain Holbøll distinguished another larger Eagle with a longer tail, *Haliaëtus ossifragus*. The existence of such a second species I cannot decidedly deny; but all the Eagles which I have received from Greenland appeared to me to be most certainly of one species.

2. FALCO CANDICANS, Gmel.

I am indeed inclined to believe that this species is a collective one, and that there can be distinguished, besides the true *F. candicans*, a *F. islandicus*; but having as yet succeeded only in distinguishing them when in the plumage of the old bird, I prefer not to separate them here. Both forms (be they varieties, races, or species) occur in Greenland; but that one of them (as it has been suggested) is confined to the northern, the

* *Falco peregrinus*, *Saxicola œnanthe*, *Numenius phaeopus*, and *Cygnus musicus*.

other to the southern part of that country, there is, I believe, no reason to suppose.

3. *FALCO PEREGRINUS*, Linn.

Not so common as the former. I think there is no difference between the Peregrine from Greenland and the European one; but I am not competent to express an opinion as to the distinction between *F. peregrinus* and *F. anatum*.

4. *NYCTEA NIVEA* (Thunb.).

Very common: in summer more numerous in the northern than in the southern part of Greenland.

5. *Otus brachyotus* (Gmel.).

A scarce bird in Greenland.

6. **Hirundo rufa*, Bp.

Nearly thirty years ago a specimen was obtained at Fiskenæsset by the late botanist Dr. Vahl, and sent to the Royal Museum. A second was shot at Nenortalik and procured for the Royal Museum in 1856. As far as I am informed, these two specimens are the only ones ever met with in Greenland.

7. **Troglodytes palustris*, Wils.

Only one specimen has been obtained (in May 1823, at Godthaab), and sent to the Royal Museum.

8. **Regulus calendula* (Linn.).

A very recent addition to the Avifauna of Greenland, a dried-up specimen in the flesh having been sent to the Royal Museum last year from Nenortalik.

9. *SAXICOLA CENANTHE* (Linn.).

10. **Mniotilta coronata* (Linn.).

I know of three instances in which this bird has been obtained in South Greenland during the last twenty years. The specimens are in the Royal Museum.

11. **Mniotilta virens* (Gmel.).

A specimen sent from Julianehaab in 1853 to the late Mr. Steenberg, and presented by him to the Royal Museum, is the only one which has come under my notice.

12. **Mniotilta striata* (Gmel.).

The only specimen I have heard of is one sent in 1853 from Godthaab to the late Mr. Steenberg, who kindly forwarded it to me for determination.

13. **Mniotilta parus* (Wils.)?

The only specimen ever obtained (a young bird shot October 16, 1845, at Frederikshaab, and presented to the Royal Museum by Holböll) is in so bad a state that I cannot be positive that I am right in referring it to this species.

14. **Mniotilta americana* (Linn.).

A specimen in a very bad state, but quite recognizable, was sent to the Royal Museum from South Greenland in 1857.

15. **Mniotilta rubricapilla* (Wils.).

Twice obtained; a specimen being procured more than twenty-five years back at Godthaab, and another at Fiskensættet on the 31st of August, 1840. Both are in the Royal Museum.

16. **Trichas philadelphia* (Wils.).

A specimen was obtained at Fiskensættet in 1846, another at Julianehaab in 1853. Both are in the Royal Museum.

17. **Motacilla alba*, Linn.

An adult female in summer dress, sent from South Greenland to the Royal Museum in 1849, was, as far as I know, the only specimen ever obtained in Greenland until Dr. Walker had the good fortune to obtain another during his few days' stay at Godhavn in August 1857.

18. *ANTHUS LUDOVICIANUS* (Gmel.).19. **Anthus pratensis* (Linn.).

Dr. Paulsen, in Sleswick, received a single specimen from Greenland in 1845. I never saw it myself.

20. **Turdus iliacus*, Linn.

A specimen was sent to Dr. Paulsen in 1845; another was shot at Frederikshaab, October 20, 1845, and presented to the Royal Museum by Captain Holböll.

21. **Turdus minor*, Gmel.

I know of one specimen only, obtained in June 1845 at

Amaraglik, near Godthaab, and presented to the Royal Museum by Holböll.

22. **Tyrannula pusilla*, Sw.

The late Mr. Steenberg received two specimens from Godthaab in 1853; they were both submitted to me for examination, and one of them was presented to the Royal Museum.

23. **Tyrannus cooperi*, Nutt.

A single specimen was shot the 29th of August, 1840, at Nenortalik, and sent to the Royal Museum.

24. **Vireosylva olivacea* (Linn.).

The Royal Museum received a single specimen from Greenland in 1844, without any further information; but I have good reason to believe that it had been obtained in South Greenland.

25. CORVUS CORAX, Linn.

Holböll considers the Greenland Raven to form a particular race, *Corvus corax littoralis*; I confess that I cannot find any material difference between Greenland and European specimens.

26. **Sturnus vulgaris*, Linn.

A female, sent by Holböll to the Royal Museum in 1851, is the only specimen which has come under my notice as having been observed in Greenland.

27. **Agelæus perspicillatus* (Licht.).

A female was obtained September 2nd, 1820, at Nenortalik. In the Royal Museum.

28. FRINGILLA LINARIA, Linn.

Common, and migratory.

29. FRINGILLA CANESCENS (Gould).

The *Linota hornemanni* of Holböll. Constantly resident.

30. ZONOTRICHIA LEUCOPHRYS (Gmel.).

Not numerous; but certainly a breeding bird, although its nest has not been found as yet.

31. PLECTROPHANES NIVALIS (Linn.).

32. PLECTROPHANES LAPPONICUS (Linn.).

33. **Loxia leucoptera* (Gmel.).

An adult bird, probably a male, dried up in the flesh, was procured nearly thirty years ago at Julianehaab from an Eskimaux, who brought it with him from the east coast on a visit to that settlement (Ichth. Bidr. p. 10). In later years another adult male and three young birds have been obtained in South Greenland. The specimens are in the Royal Museum.

34. **Otocorys alpestris* (Linn.).

A single specimen was shot at Godthaab in October 1835, and presented to the Royal Museum by Holböll.

Quoting this bird as "*alpestris*," I certainly do not wish to suggest that it has been misguided to Greenland from "the far east." There can be, I think, no doubt that it is an American straggler; but having no American specimens for comparison, I compared the Greenland specimen with a male of the true *O. alpestris* shot in the neighbourhood of Dresden (Germany) and a female from Denmark, and I cannot find any material difference either in colour or in size. I suppose, therefore, that the American *O. cornuta*, which Bonaparte himself calls a species "*à peine distincte de l'O. alpestris*," has been established without sufficient reason.

35. **Picus varius*, Linn.

I know of two instances in which this Woodpecker has been observed in Greenland. An adult female was found dead on the ground near Julianehaab in July 1845 (and, indeed, birds like Woodpeckers and Crossbills can hardly live more than a few days in a land without trees, such as Greenland). Another female was sent some two or three years ago from South Greenland, but I do not know exactly from what settlement. Both specimens are in the Royal Museum.

36. **Colaptes auratus* (Linn.).

My authority for this bird having been found in Greenland is a German ornithologist, the Pastor Möschler, who mentions that he has received a specimen from thence in 1852 (Cabanis' Journ. f. Ornith. 1856, p. 335). Unfortunately Mr. Möschler gives no particulars about this very curious occurrence.

†COLUMBA DOMESTICA.

†GALLUS GALLORUM.

37. LAGOPUS REINHARDTI, Brehm.

Besides this, Pastor Brehm distinguishes a second Greenland Ptarmigan, *Lagopus grœnlandicus* (Vogelfang, p. 264, note), which, I think, there is no reason to admit. It may even be considered questionable whether the *L. reinhardti* really differs from the *Tetrao lagopus*, Auct.

38. *Squatarola helvetica* (Linn.).

Occurs in very limited numbers.

39. **Vanellus cristatus*, Mey.

An adult male was obtained January 7th, 1820, near Fiskensæset, and sent to the Royal Museum. A second specimen was received in 1847 from Julianehaab.

40. *Charadrius virginicus*, Bork.

It is a most exact observation of the late Prince Bonaparte†, that the Plover found in Greenland is the American species, and *not* the European Golden Plover, for which it has been mistaken by nearly all former writers, myself not excepted. I have now before me two specimens sent by Holbøll himself to the Royal Museum under the name of *Charadrius pluvialis*, and both prove to be the Virginian Plover with *grey axillaries*. The Golden Plover should consequently be erased from the list of Greenland birds.

41. CHARADRIUS HIATICULA, Linn.

42. CINCLUS INTERPRES (Linn.).

43. **Hæmatopus ostralegus*, Linn.

I have seen three specimens of this bird from Greenland; one sent in 1847 from Julianehaab, another in 1851 from Godthaab (both in the Royal Museum); the third I saw in a collection of bird-skins sent last year from Nenortalik, and offered here for sale.

44. **Ardea cinerea*, Linn.

The Common Heron was admitted in the 'Fauna Grœnlandica' upon the authority of the missionary Matthæus Stach, who said that he had seen such a bird the 27th of August,

† Compt. Rend. xliii. p. 1019.

1765†. Misunderstanding the words of Fabricius, Holböll in his memoir erased the bird (never since observed) from the Greenland Avifauna. But in 1856 a young Heron was found dead near Nenortalik, and sent to the Royal Museum; and this occurrence not only gives the species a claim to be enumerated here, but makes it not unlikely that the old missionary may have been right.

45. *Numenius phaëopus* (Linn.).

I have in the last years seen five or six specimens, sent from all parts of Greenland, and know that six others were formerly sent to my late father in the years 1831–35. Therefore, though Holböll doubts it, I should not be surprised if this Curlew in future proved to breed in Greenland. Prince Bonaparte has rather indicated than described‡ a *Numenius melanorhynchus* from Greenland (and Iceland), which he supposes has formerly been mistaken for the true *N. phaëopus*. Of course there can be scarcely any doubt that his new species is the same bird, which I still consider to be the European, and, with all due regard for the high authority, I cannot give up this opinion.

46. **Numenius hudsonicus*, Lath.

I myself have never seen more than one specimen of this bird from Greenland—a female sent from Godthaab by Holböll, and described and figured by my father (Ichth. Bidr. p. 19. pl. 2); but Holböll mentions that he obtained the bird twice, at Julianehaab and Fiskerø; and a fourth specimen (a very bad one) was sent some thirty years back to the Royal Museum from Jacobshavn, but seems not to have been preserved.

47. **Numenius borealis*, Lath.

The Royal Museum possesses two specimens of this little Curlew, which indeed were not received directly from the Museum's own collectors, but bought at second-hand here in Copenhagen. I have, however, no doubt about their Greenland origin, and they are, I believe, the only specimens ever obtained there. One of them was brought from Greenland in 1858, and is said to have been shot at Julianehaab; about the other I know no particulars.

† David Cranz, Fortsetzung der Historie von Grönland, p. 214. Barby und Leipzig, 1770.

‡ Compt. Rend. xliii. p. 1021.

48. **Limosa algocephala* (Linn.).

Fabricius mentions that he had seen a single specimen (Fn. Gr. p. 107); and after his time the bird is said to have been obtained once more, nearly forty years back, at Godthaab; the specimen was sent to the Royal Museum, but seems not to have been preserved; at least, I have not been able to find it.

49. *TRINGA CANUTA*, Linn.50. *TRINGA MARITIMA*, Brünn.51. *Tringa cinclus*, Linn.

Probably this species breeds in Greenland; but, as far as I know, the nest has not yet been found.

52. *TRINGA SCHINZII*, Bp.53. **Tringa pectoralis*, Bp.

The Royal Museum received a specimen of this bird in 1851, the first, I think, ever captured in Greenland. Two more were sent in 1859 from Nenortalik.

54. **Totanus flavipes*, Lath.

Pastor Möschler relates that he received a single specimen of this bird from "Greenland" in 1854 (Journ. f. Ornith. 1856, p. 335). I never saw it myself.

55. *CALIDRIS ARENARIA* (Linn.).

A scarce bird in Greenland; breeds on Disco Island.

56. *PHALAROPUS FULICARIUS* (Linn.).57. *PHALAROPUS HYPERBOREUS* (Linn.).58. **Macrorhamphus griseus* (Gmel.).

There is, I believe, only one well-established instance of this Snipe being observed in Greenland, namely at Fiskensættet in 1854 (Ichth. Bidr. p. 20).

59. *Gallinago media*, Steph.

This Snipe has been observed so often in Greenland, that it very likely may in future be found breeding there; but as yet no eggs have been sent from Greenland, as far as I know.

60. **Ortygometra crex* (Linn.)

I am aware of one case only in which this bird has been mis-

guided to Greenland. The specimen (an adult female) was obtained at Godthaab, and presented to the Royal Museum in 1851. Accordingly I have been somewhat surprised to see that Mr. Cassin supposes (Reports of Expl. &c. ix. p. 751) the bird to be a constant summer visitor to Greenland, while it really does not even occur in Iceland as a regular visitor.

61. **Ortygometra porzana* (Linn.).

Besides one obtained the 28th of September, 1841, at Godthaab, and already mentioned by Holböll, another has been captured at Nenortalik, and sent to the Royal Museum in 1856.

62. **Ortygometra carolina* (Linn.).

The specimen mentioned by my father (Ichth. Bidr. p. 20) to have been obtained at Sukkertoppen, October 3, 1823, is the only one ever observed in Greenland. Holböll, by a mistake, quotes the bird as obtained in 1822.

63. *Fulica americana*, Gm.

In the year 1854, a Coot was shot by Mr. Olrik, the Governor of North Greenland, in the harbour of Christianshaab, one of the settlements in Disco Bay, and another was obtained at Godthaab by Mr. Holböll in the same year. The first-mentioned example was presented to Mr. John Barrow, and is now in that gentleman's collection. The other specimen, which I am told was very much injured by the shot, does not seem to have been preserved.

64. ANSER ALBIFRONS (Gm.).

†ANSER CINEREUS DOMESTICUS.

65. *Anser hyperboreus*, Pall.

Only a few young birds hitherto observed. Certainly does not breed on that tract of the Greenland coast occupied by the Danish settlements, and probably not at all in that land.

66. BERNICLA BRENTA (Pall.).

On the whole coast occupied by our settlements, this Goose appears only on the passage to and from its breeding-places in the very high latitudes to the north of the 73rd degree.

67. *Bernicla leucopsis* (Bechst.).

According to Holböll, this species, in autumn, regularly visits

the southern part of Greenland ("Julianehaabs-Distrikt"), but he doubts if it breeds anywhere in that land. These two statements do not seem to agree quite well together, and, in fact, I have been told that some few eggs of the Bernacle Goose have been sent from Greenland of late years, but I cannot warrant the truth of this information.

68. *Cygnus ferus*, Ray.

According to accounts received from the Eskimaux, the Swan formerly bred on several places near Godthaab, but was long ago totally exterminated by persecution during the moulting-season (Holböll, Ornith. Bidr. &c. p. 432). In the last fifteen years this bird has again made its appearance in Greenland; some examples were (according to Holböll) observed at Julianehaab in 1846; I have myself seen two specimens, sent from South Greenland in 1852; and in June 1859 a beautiful Swan was shot at Atamik, nearly ten (Danish) miles to the north of Godthaab. The Swan may therefore in future again breed in Greenland, if left undisturbed.

69. *ANAS BOSCHAS*, Linn.

70. *Anas acuta*, Linn.

Accidental, but not very rare; in North Greenland, as well as in South Greenland.

71. **Anas carolinensis*, Gmel.

Four specimens have been obtained during the last twelve years in South Greenland (Julianehaab and Godthaab), and sent to the Royal Museum.

72. **Anas crecca*, Linn.

According to the statements of my father and Holböll, some few specimens have been shot at different places.

73. **Anas penelope*, Linn.

For the first evidence of this Wigeon having been met with in Greenland we are indebted to Holböll, who sent a young male to the Royal Museum in 1851; besides this, I have seen two other young birds, also obtained in South Greenland.

74. **Fuligula marila* (Linn.).

Two adult males and a female were sent from Nenortalik last

year, and were considered by me to be the very first specimens of this Duck ever obtained in Greenland, until I learned from ✓ 'The Ibis' (1860, p. 166) that Dr. Walker had already obtained it during his short stay at Godhavn in the beginning of August 1857.

75. **Fuligula cristata*, Ray.

I insert this species upon the authority of Walker, who mentions it amongst the birds obtained at Godhavn during the ✓ "Fox's" stay there in 1857 ('The Ibis,' *l.c.*). The capture of this Duck in North Greenland must be considered a very extraordinary fact, as it does not inhabit North America, and as, in Europe, Iceland is not even included in its geographical range.

76. *CLANGULA ISLANDICA* (Gmel.).

Breeds in South Greenland only (Godthaab and Nenortalik).

77. **Clangula albeola* (Linn.).

The adult female obtained nearly thirty years ago at Godthaab, and mentioned by my late father (Ichth. Bidr. p. 22), is still the only specimen ever observed.

78. *CLANGULA HISTRIONICA* (Linn.).

79. *HARELDA GLACIALIS* (Linn.).

80. *SOMATERIA MOLLISSIMA* (Linn.).

81. *SOMATERIA SPECTABILIS* (Linn.).

82. **Edemia perspicillata* (Linn.).

Only very few specimens obtained.

83. *MERGUS SERRATOR*, Linn.

84. *COLYMBUS GLACIALIS*, Linn.

An interesting variety of this Diver was received in 1859 from Nenortalik, thoroughly silver-grey; the white spots on the back (of the regular plumage) are in this variety still perceivable in a certain light as marks somewhat differently shaded.

85. *COLYMBUS SEPTENTRIONALIS*, Linn.

86. **Podiceps holbællii*, Rhdt.

Besides the two specimens (one of them in summer-, the other in winter-plumage) upon which I established this new species

in 1853, I have since received a third from Greenland in 1855, the examination of which has confirmed me in considering the bird a distinct species. It is not only its much larger size which distinguishes the Greenland bird from its European relative, but also the very sensible difference in the shape of the bill. In *P. holbællii* it is, comparatively to its length, not so high at the base as in *P. griseigena*, and of course much more gradually tapering towards the point. In my opinion, *P. holbællii* indeed differs more from *P. griseigena* than many other North-American birds, now generally admitted as distinct, do from the allied European species, as, for instance, *Anas carolinensis* from *A. crecca*, or *Fuligula affinis* from *F. marila*.

87. **Podiceps cornutus* (Gmel.).

Only a few young birds, obtained in the southern part of Greenland.

88. *Alca impennis*, Linn.

The "Geirfugl" now being nearly extinct, it would be ³⁷⁶in vain to hope to meet with it on the coast of Greenland; but even formerly, when the bird was still numerous at its breeding-places, it seems to have visited Greenland only in winter, and in limited numbers, chiefly of young birds. In the present century, a specimen is known to have been killed at Disco Island in 1821, and one more may perhaps have been captured some years earlier; but the accounts of other instances in which the bird is said to have been obtained in Greenland are hardly to be confided in.

89. *ALCA TORDA*, Linn.

90. *FRATERCULA ARCTICA* (Linn.).

91. **Fratercula glacialis*, Leach.

All the Puffins which I have received from Greenland I consider to be of the common species. As Mr. Cassin, however, mentions (Rep. Expl. ix. p. 903) that he has seen specimens of the *F. glacialis* from thence, I do not hesitate to include this species also in the Greenland Avifauna; but I think it must be considered an accidental visitor.

92. **Fratercula cirrata* (Pallas).

I insert this bird upon the authority of Pastor Möschler, who mentions that he had received a specimen "from Greenland" in 1846 (Journ. f. Ornith. 1856, p. 335).

93. *URIA BRUENNICHII*, Sab.94. *URIA TROILE*, Linn.

The *Uria ringvia*, Brünn. (*U. troile leucophthalmos*, Fab.) is only a variety of the common *U. troile*, and very rare in Greenland.

95. *URIA GRYLLE*, Linn.96. *ARCTICA ALLE* (Linn.).97. *PUFFINUS MAJOR*, Fab.98. **Puffinus anglorum*, Ray.99. *THALASSIDROMA LEACHII* (Temm.).100. *PROCELLARIA GLACIALIS*, Linn.

In a former list (Vidensk. Meddel. 1853, p. 69 seq.) I admitted as a second species the *P. minor* of Mr. Kjærbølling. A stricter examination has, however, convinced me that it has been established without sufficient reason. The pretended difference in colour at least is not constant, if ever existing; and the small Fulmars are not at all (as it has been stated) confined to North Greenland. The smallest I ever saw (smaller than that of which the measurements are given by Mr. Kjærbølling) was sent to the Royal Museum from South Greenland. On the other hand, I have received examples from North Greenland corresponding exactly in size with others from the Fär Islands.

101. *Stercorarius catarrhactes* (Linn.).102. *STERCORARIUS POMARINUS* (Temm.).103. *STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS* (Linn.).104. *STERCORARIUS BUFFONII* (Boie).105. *LARUS MARINUS*, Linn.106. *LARUS GLAUCUS*, Linn.

I have not succeeded in distinguishing a *Larus arcticus* or *L. glacialis* from the true *L. glaucus*. It is quite true that some

individuals are paler and much smaller than others ; but it appears to me that no certain limits are to be found between these varieties or races.

107. *LARUS LEUCOPTERUS*, Fab.

108. ? **Larus chalconotus*, Licht.

Dr. Bruch (J. f. Orn. 1855, p. 282) seems to recognize this species in a Gull which Holbøll considers a variety of *L. leucopterus*, and of which he has obtained three specimens only. I myself never saw any of them.

109. **Larus argentatus*, Brünn.

I myself never saw more than one specimen of this species obtained (viz. an adult bird in *winter* plumage, shot at Godthaab about ten years ago), and I have been told of only two or three more sent from thence, and offered here for sale. It is certainly a quite accidental and extremely rare bird in Greenland. Therefore I have been somewhat surprised to learn from Dr. Walker's paper that he had observed this Gull flying about in the harbour of Frederikshaab. I suspect that, in the paper quoted, *Larus argentatus* has been put down by mistake instead of *L. leucopterus* (next to *L. tridactylus*, the commonest Gull in Greenland), which is not mentioned by Dr. Walker, though it probably did not fail in the said harbour.

110. **Larus affinis*, Rhdt., an sp. n. ?

When I described this Gull in 1853 (*l. c.* p. 78), I expressly observed that I did not hesitate to consider it as quite distinct from *Larus argentatus* (the mantle being *many shades darker* and the size smaller), but that, on the other hand, an immediate comparison with Audubon's *L. occidentalis* (a species known to me only by description) was necessary before deciding finally upon its claims to be considered a new species, and that I should even have referred it to the said Gull had it not been for the very superior size of the latter, as given by Audubon (Orn. Biogr. v. p. 320, and Syn. B. N. Am. p. 328). I am still unable to solve the question ; but I may be permitted to observe, that it at all events appears to me a mistake, when the late Prince Bonaparte, in his 'Conspectus' (pt. 2. p. 218), refers my *L. affinis* to

L. argentatoides, Rich. (the only race of *argentatus* admitted by him as American), this doubtful species being *paler* even than the *L. argentatus* proper, and consequently differing still more from my *L. affinis*.

The specimen described in 1853, and still the only one which I have seen of my *L. affinis*, is in the Royal Museum.

111. *RISSA TRIDACTYLA* (Linn.).

112. *PAGOPHILA EBURNEA* (Gmel.).

113. ? *Pagophila brachytarsa* (Holb.).

Holböll established this Gull (which I have never seen) upon three specimens, obtained at different times, but unfortunately lost even before the publication of his memoir on the Avifauna of Greenland. Afterwards he seems to have failed in his endeavours to get more examples, and I doubt whether any collection possesses an authentic or type specimen. This is much to be regretted. Different authors also do not quite agree in the characters which they ascribe to the supposed new species, and it seems to require further investigation before it can be finally admitted. Indeed, Holböll gives his *Larus brachytarsus* a tarsus 5 lines shorter than that of *P. eburnea*, while Brehm, who identifies Holböll's Gull with his *P. nivea*, admits only a difference of 2 lines in the length of the tarsus (Vogelfang, p. 344). Again, Bonaparte, who also adopts Brehm's name, and has examined a specimen in the Paris Museum brought from Spitzbergen by Gaimard, does not mention the length of the tarsus, but makes, in direct opposition to Holböll, Bruch, and Brehm, the new species *larger* than the true *P. eburnea* (Consp. ii. p. 230).

Lastly, it may be observed here, that it is a slight error of Bruch (in which he has been followed by Bonaparte and Brehm) to confine the *Pagophila brachytarsa* to North Greenland (Cabanis' Journ. 1854, p. 106; 1855, p. 287); indeed, Holböll says positively that he obtained one of his three specimens at Godthaab in South Greenland.

114. **Rhodostethia rosea* (Macgill.).

In my former lists this species is not admitted; the reason it is so here is, that I have been told by a trustworthy person that

Holböll formerly possessed an example, probably obtained in Greenland during the latter years of his life.

115. XEMA SABINI, J. Sab.

Very rare in the Danish settlements; breeds only to the north of Upernavik.

116. STERNA MACROURA, Naum.

117. **Sula bassana* (Linn.).

Accidental and rare.

118. GRACULUS CARBO (Linn.).

Copenhagen, 31st July, 1860.

II.—*Note on Milvago carunculatus and its allied species.*

By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER.

(Plate I.)

IN my description of *Accipiter collaris* in last year's volume of 'The Ibis' (p. 147 *et seq.*), I spoke of *Milvago carunculatus* as another scarce Raptorial bird peculiar to New Granada, of which, at the time I was writing, I believed but one specimen was known to exist in scientific collections. M. O. Des Murs, having noticed this allusion, has most kindly sent to me the original description of *Milvago carunculatus*, as it was prepared for his 'Iconographie Ornithologique' in 1845. That work having (unfortunately for science) been discontinued shortly afterwards, M. Des Murs' article was never published, and merely a short notice of this new species was subsequently given by him in the 'Revue Zoologique' for 1853 (p. 154). I now have the pleasure of giving M. Des Murs' full description, as follows:—

POLYBORUS (*Milvago*, *Phalcobanus*) CARUNCULATUS, Des Murs.

Supra nigro-splendens; remigibus primariis, secundariis et tectricum alarum majorum apicibus albis; rectricibus in toto nigris, albo late marginatis; supracaudalibus albis: subtus niger, albo regulariter flammato seu squamato; abdomine inferiore, crisso, femoribus subcaudalibusque candidis: carunculis ceraque aurantiis; pedibus flavis.

Cette belle espèce de *Polyborus* a la plus grande ressemblance et l'affinité la plus intime avec le *P. montanus* de d'Orbigny.